

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 1, 2018

The Honorable Rex W. Tillerson
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Tillerson:

We strongly support President Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and the process of moving the Embassy of the United States in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. This recognition was long overdue and reaffirms our commitment to stand with the Jewish State.

Recently, news reports have indicated the U.S. Department of State is examining the legality of accepting private donations to cover some or all of the costs associated with the relocation of the Embassy. Allowing these donations could help offset the cost of the facility and expedite the process of relocating the Embassy.

Under current law, the Secretary of State "may accept on behalf of the United States gifts made unconditionally by will or otherwise for the benefit of the Department of State (including the Foreign Service) or for the carrying out of any of its functions."¹

We urge you to quickly utilize the authorities provided under current law to save taxpayer money and expedite this important process to effectuate the will of Congress and the American people.

Sincerely,

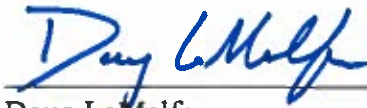
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Luke Messer", is written over a horizontal line.

Luke Messer
Member of Congress

¹ [22 U.S.C. 2687](#)



Mark Meadows
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress



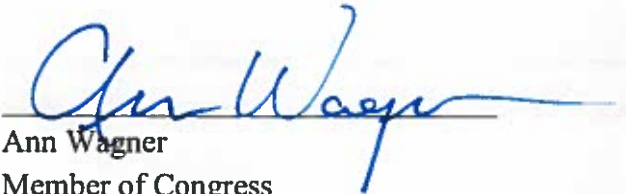
Blake Farenthold
Member of Congress



Kevin Cramer
Member of Congress



John Faso
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner
Member of Congress



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



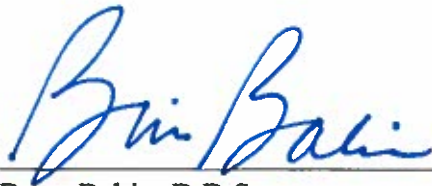
Keith Rothfus
Member of Congress



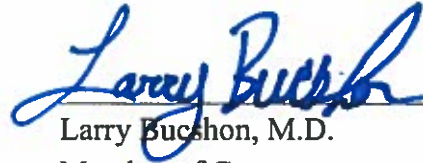
Ted Budd
Member of Congress



Jody Hice
Member of Congress



Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Larry Buchhon, M.D.
Member of Congress



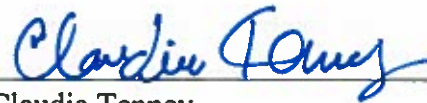
Darrell Issa
Member of Congress



Lou Barletta
Member of Congress



Ralph Abraham, M.D.
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress